

Worship at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 3, 2026 at 10 am

"I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you." (John 14:16)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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HYMN #398: *THERE'S A SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT*

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

*Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,
When we shall leave this place.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION AND THE WORLD

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Spirit of God,
blow far from us all that is lifeless and dry—
our complacency and fear,
our resistance to your will,
our clinging to what cannot give life.
Blow far from us every false comfort,
every hardened place within us,
every word and thought that grieves your presence.

Wind of God,
blow into us the breath of new life—
renew our hearts with your power,
awaken us to your presence,
stir within us a holy longing for Christ.
Blow into us your wisdom and truth,
your courage and compassion,
your gifts for the building up of your people.

Spirit of the living God,
as you moved over the waters of creation
and filled your people throughout the ages,
blow now among us and within us
as we gather to worship you today.

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 HYMN #139: *COME THOU ALMIGHTY KING*

Come, Thou Almighty King,
 Help us Thy name to sing, Help us to praise:
 Father, all-glorious, O'er all victorious,
 Come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, Thou Incarnate Word,
 Gird on Thy mighty sword, Our prayer attend:
 Come, and Thy people bless, And give Thy word success;
 Spirit of holiness, On us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter,
 Thy sacred witness bear In this glad hour:
 Thou who almighty art, Now rule in every heart,
 And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To Thee, great One in Three,
 The highest praises be, Hence evermore!
 Thy sovereign majesty May we in glory see,
 And to eternity Love and adore.

 PRAYER OF CONFESSION *AND* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(You are invited to join in unison with the pastor, or to follow along in silence)

Holy Spirit, you are present with us and within us,
 and yet we confess how little we understand you.

We speak of you as though you were distant or impersonal,
 forgetting your searching, knowing presence.
 We confess that your conviction feels intrusive,
 and your call to holiness feels unsettling.
 Too often we resist your leading,
 clinging to what is comfortable
 instead of allowing ourselves to be transformed.
 Forgive us for grieving you by quenching your voice.

Come to us again, Holy Spirit.
 Refresh us with your life-giving power.
 Cleanse and renew our hearts,
 and form in us a willing obedience,
 that we may walk in step with you
 and bear fruit that honors our God.

After corporate prayer we will have a few moments of silence for personal confession.

CHOIR: SOMETIMES IN THE SILENCE

 READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

 Sermon: *"Who Is the Holy Spirit?"*

John 14:15–21, 26; 16:7

"If you love me, obey my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. ¹⁸ No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you. ¹⁹ Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Since I live, you also will live. ²⁰ When I am raised to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them." . . .

²⁶ When the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. . . .

⁷ But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.

Matthew 28:18–20

Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

 RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

The metal basket in the offering plate is for gifts to support our deacons' provision of care, support, and financial assistance to those in need.

 CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Our practice is to eat the bread individually as it is distributed, and to hold onto the cup until all have received it, and then partake of it in unison.

Our communion bread is gluten-free.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Passing the Peace: "May the peace of Christ be with you"

Communion

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
 begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
 through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
 and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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HYMN #101: *WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS*

When I survey the wondrous cross
 on which the Prince of glory died,
 my richest gain I count but loss,
 and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
 save in the death of Christ, my God!
 All the vain things that charm me most,
 I sacrifice them through his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
 sorrow and love flow mingled down.
 Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
 or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
 that were a present far too small.
 Love so amazing, so divine,
 demands my soul, my life, my all.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

TODAY	Choir Practice (9:00 in the Parlor) Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
Tuesday, May 5	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30) Worship at Channel Point (10:30) Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group (1:00 pm)
Wednesday, May 6	Quilting Group (10:30–2:30)
Thursday, May 7	Deacons' Meeting (2:00 pm) Session (7:00 pm)
Saturday, May 9	Creation Station (11:00–1:00)
Sunday, May 10	Mother's Day Breakfast (8:30–9:30) Choir Practice (9:00 in the Parlor) Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)

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